

REMARKS

The drawings stand objected to. Claims 1 - 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Claims 9 - 13 and 19 - 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Prior Art disclosed by Kuo. Claims 9 - 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Barrett et al. Claims 1 - 3, 6 - 7, and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Prior Art disclosed by Kuo in view of Colley. Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Prior Art disclosed by Kuo in view of Colley and further in view of Huang. Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Prior Art disclosed by Kuo in view of Colley and further in view of Nakatani. Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Prior Art disclosed by Kuo in view of Colley and Nakatani, and further in view of Hisatomi et al. Claims 17 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakatani, and further in view of Hisatomi et al. The Examiner's astute review is most appreciated, and has facilitated the amendments herein above. In view of the above amendment and following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the outstanding objections and rejections and allow the present application to issue.

With regard to the objections to the drawings, the Examiner's observation regarding the lock handle numbering is appreciated. A replacement drawing sheet is provided herewith which corrects the designation of the lock handles of clamps 220.

With regard to the rejections of claims 1 - 23 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, the informalities noted by the Examiner have been corrected by way of the present amendment, with only two exceptions. The Examiner's comments with regard to claim 9 are noted. However, the applicants have intentionally and explicitly claimed the bounded openings. The Examiner's reference to an alternative would appear only to be an illustration of subject matter which would not be encompassed by claim 9. With regard to claim 14, there is no intention of inferentially claiming a second base. Instead, the operative nature of the base is defined, without

the intention of claiming a second base as the invention. This may be likened to claiming that a chair operatively supports a person. While the person would not be included in the claim, the operation of the chair has been explicitly defined. Such is the intention of the applicants with regard to claim 14.

With regard to the outstanding rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and §103(a), the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider these rejections. With regard to independent claim 1, this claim recites "clamp having a fixed member, at least one rotary disc, and at least one elastomeric member that is in frictional engagement between said fixed member and said at least one rotary disc when said clamping arrangement is in said second position." Similarly, presently amended claim 19 recites "at least one elastomeric member between said core and said backing member that is in frictional engagement with said core and said backing member while damping transmission of vibrations between said core and said backing member when said clamping arrangement is in said first clamping position." As described in the present specification between page 17, line 18 and page 18, line 4, the elastomeric member provides a combination of excellent frictional behavior, and, of particular importance for a microphone boom stand, a dampening of higher frequency vibrations. The Examiner has relied upon Colley to teach the use of an elastomeric pad. However, the Examiner will observe that the Colley construction, which is designed to act as a bicycle clamp, is quite different from the present invention, and does not describe or obtain the frequency isolation that is achieved using the recited combination of fixed member, rotary disc, and elastomeric member therebetween. Consequently, without a teaching or suggestion of the benefit, the Colley patent is simply an unrelated coupling. If the applicants and their representative have somehow overlooked a teaching provided therein or in any of the other cited documents, the Examiner is respectfully requested to direct applicants directly thereto. In the absence of such a teaching, as the Examiner is already aware, the combination cannot be considered to be obvious, but must instead be merely the result of the hindsight afforded by the present specification.

With regard to the rejection of claims 8 - 16, the Examiner will observe that each of these claims recite the massive anchors. A copy of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary definition for the word massive is attached herewith, which defines massive as "1. Forming or consisting of a large mass; large and heavy; big and solid; bulky; ponderous. 2. Solid, not hollow or plated: said of articles made of gold or silver. 3. Large and imposing or impressive; of considerable magnitude." The synonyms are bulky, heavy, ponderous, weighty and large. The Examiner will observe that none of the references of record illustrate such anchors. The Examiner suggests that the feet, wheels and the like may be construed as anchors. However, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider this construction in light of the standard definition for the word "massive" provided herewith. Instead, none of the references of record illustrate massive anchors. Well known in the industry are large bases made of cast iron or the like in the shape of a large slightly domed disc. These bases are massive, but do not possess the other recited features. Since the prior art of record is absent a teaching for massive base having the other recited features, or any suggestion for making such combination, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejection of these claims.

With regard to claims 5, 17 and 18, the applicants have introduced the novel combination of clamp with resilient cable guide. None of the references of record appear to illustrate or teach this combination. While such combination may at first appear somewhat arbitrary and capricious, the Examiner will observe that the combination provides unique assurance that the cables will not interfere in any way during use, and are naturally located at optimum locations for such anchoring. To form separate cable guides would require both additional expense and necessarily displace the guides from these optimum locations. Such synergistic combination is absent in the prior art of record and known to the applicants. Consequently, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections of these claims.

In view of the present amendment and remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejection of record and allow the present application to issue. No new matter is

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introduced. However, should there remain any open issues in this application which might be resolved by telephone, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at 320-363-7296 to further discuss the advancement of this application. Please charge all small entity fees associated with this correspondence to deposit account 17-0155.

Sincerely,



Albert W. Watkins

reg. 31,676



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massage

más-sáje, *v.t.*; massaged, *pt.*, *pp.*; massaging, *ppr.* to give a massage to.

más-sáje'r (-sázh'), *n.* one who massages.

más-sáje'ist, *n.* same as *massager*.

más-sá-sau'gá, *n.* [Am. Ind.] a variety of small rattlesnake found in dry regions of the southern United States.

Mass bell, same as *Sanctus bell*.

Mass book, same as *missal*.

Mass card, a printed card stating that a Mass will be offered, as for a deceased person, sent by the donor, as to the bereaved.

Mass'-day, *n.* a day on which High Mass is celebrated. [Archaic.]

mass dé-fect', in physics, the amount by which the mass of the nucleus of an atom is less than the sum of the masses of the particles of which the nucleus is constituted.

mas-sé' (mas-sá'), *n.* [Fr., from *masser*, to make a massé shot, from *masse*, a cue,] in billiards, a shot made with the cue held in a vertical or nearly vertical position.

mas-sé' shot, same as *massé*.

mas-sé'tér, *n.* [Mod. L., Gr. *masstér*, a chewer, from *masasthai*, to chew,] either of a pair of large muscles in the angle of the lower jaw which raise the jaw in chewing, etc.

mas-sé'tér'ic, *a.* in anatomy, relating to the masseter.

más-séur', *n.* [Fr., from *masser*, to knead,] a man whose work is massaging.

más-séuse', *n.* a woman whose work is massaging.

mas-si'cot, *n.* [Fr.] a yellow oxide of lead, PbO, produced by heating lead in air to just above the melting point, used as a pigment and in the production of red lead.

más'sif, *n.* [Fr., bulky, massive, from *masse*, a mass,] 1. the dominant, central mass of a mountain ridge, more or less defined by lengthwise or crosswise valleys.

2. a diastrophic block of the earth's crust that is isolated by boundary faults and has shifted as a whole.

mass'-ive-ness, *n.* the state of being massy.

mass'sive, *a.* [Fr. *massif*, from *masse*, L. *massa*, a lump, mass,] 1. forming or consisting of a large mass; large and heavy; big and solid; bulky; ponderous.

2. solid, not hollow or plated: said of articles made of gold or silver.

3. large and imposing or impressive; of considerable magnitude.

4. in geology, (a) homogeneous in structure, without stratification, foliation, etc.; as, *massive* rock formations; (b) occurring in thick beds, without minor joints and lamination: said of some stratified rocks.

5. in mineralogy, irregular in form, though occasionally crystalline in internal structure.

Syn.—bulky, heavy, ponderous, weighty, large.

mass'ive-ly, *adv.* in a mass; heavily.

mass'ive-ness, *n.* the quality of being massive.

mass mé'di-a, those means of communication that reach and influence large numbers of peoples, especially newspapers, popular magazines, radio, and television.

mass meet'ing, a large public meeting to hear speakers, discuss public affairs, demonstrate public approval or disapproval, etc.

mass num'ber, in atomic and nuclear physics, the whole number by which the fundamental unit of mass, 1.6603×10^{-24} gram (almost the mass of a proton, the nucleus of a hydrogen atom), is multiplied to find the approximate mass of the nucleus of an atom: it is equal to the sum of the numbers of protons and neutrons in the nucleus and is always at least twice as great as the atomic number, except in the case of hydrogen and a certain rare isotope of helium.

Más-sé-réte, **Más-sé-rite**, *n.* same as *Masorete*.

mas-sé-ther'a-py, *n.* [from *massage* and *therapy*,] the treatment of disease by massage.

Mass priest, a Roman Catholic priest; a hostile term.

mass pró-duc'tion, the production or manufacture of goods in large quantities, especially by machinery and division of labor.

mass spec'trô-gráph, an instrument for sorting and analyzing streams of ionized particles by passing these through deflecting fields, typically designed to focus particles of equal mass on a fluorescent screen or photographic plate: used to detect various particles, to determine the relative abundance of isotopes in an element, etc.: also called *mass spectrometer*.

mas'sú-lá, *n.*; *pl.* **mas'sú-lae**, [L. *massula*, dim. of *massa*, a lump, mass,] in botany, (a) in ferns, a mucilaginous mass of spherical shape enclosing a mass of microspores; (b) in flowering plants, a little group of adherent pollen grains produced by the same mother cell.

mass'y, *a.*; *comp.* massier; *superl.* massiest, having much mass; heavy; large; weighty. [Archaic or Poet.]

mast, same as *maslo*.

mást, *n.* [ME. *mast*; AS. *mást*, the stem of a tree, bough, mast,] 1. a tall spar, sometimes in sections, rising vertically from the keel or deck of a vessel and used to support the sails, yards, etc.: modern masts are often hollow structures made of wooden strips, tubular steel, extruded aluminum, etc.

2. a specified section of this; as, the top-mast.

3. any vertical pole, as in a crane or derrick.

4. the foremast.

5. [M—] in the United States Navy, a summary session held by an officer to impose discipline and hear complaints.

at the mast; in the United States Navy, at the mainmast on the spar deck, the place of meeting for interview between officers and men.

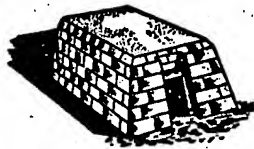
before the mast; (a) in the sailors' quarters on a ship, forward of the foremast, as distinguished from the officers' quarters aft; (b) as a common sailor; as an unlicensed seaman.

mást, *v.t.*; masted, *pt.*, *pp.*; masting, *ppr.* to attach a mast or masts to, as a ship; as, the ship is properly masted.

mást, *n.* [ME. *mast*; AS. *mást*, food, mast, beechnuts,] beechnuts, acorns, chestnuts, etc., especially as food for hogs.

mást, *v.t.* to furnish with mast as food; as, to mast swine in the fall. [Obs.]

mas'tá-bá, **mas'tá-báh**, *n.* [Ar. *mas'tabah*,] an oblong structure with a flat roof and sloping sides, built over the opening of a mummy chamber or burial pit in ancient Egypt and used as a tomb or mortuary chapel.



MASTABA

mas'tax, *n.* [Gr. *mas'tax*, the mouth, jaws, from *masasthai*, to chew,] the pharyngeal bulb containing the food-crushing apparatus of a rotifer.

mást còat, in a ship, a kind of conical roof of canvas fitted around the foot of a mast to prevent water from entering between the mast and the deck.

mas-tec'tô-my, *n.* [*mas't* and *-ectomy*,] the surgical removal of a breast.

mást'ed, *a.* furnished with a mast or masts.

más'tér, *n.* [ME. *maister*, *meister*; OFr. *maistre*, master, from L. *magister*, master, chief, head, from root of *magnus*, great,] 1. a man who rules, others or has control, authority, or power over something; specifically, (a) a man who is head of a household or institution; (b) an employer; (c) an owner of an animal or slave; (d) the captain of a merchant ship; (e) a victor; as, he proved to be the *master* of the other runners in the race; (f) [Chiefly Brit.] a male schoolteacher or tutor; (g) a person whose teachings in religion, philosophy, etc. one follows or professes to follow; (h) [M—] Jesus Christ (with *our*, *the*, etc.)

2. something regarded as having control, power, etc.; as, love is his *master*.

3. a person very skilled and able in some work, profession, science, etc.; expert; specifically, (a) a skilled workman or craftsman qualified to follow his trade independently; (b) an artist regarded as great.

4. a work by such an artist; as, this painting is an old *master*.

5. [M—] a title variously applied to (a) originally, a man of high rank; (b) later, any man or youth: now superseded by the variant *Master*, usually written *Mr.*; (c) a boy regarded as too young to be addressed as *Mr.*; (d) a man who heads some institution, group, activity, or place; as, *Master* of the Fox-hounds; (e) in Scotland, the heir apparent of

master mason

a viscount or baron; (f) a person holding a certain degree from a college or university, denoting completion of a prescribed course of graduate study in some field and ranking above that of *Bachelor* and below that of *Doctor*; as, *Master* of Arts.

6. a metal matrix or mold made from the original recording and used to produce phonograph records in quantity.

7. in law, any of several court officers appointed to assist the judge by hearing evidence, reporting on certain matters, etc.; as, a *master* in chancery.

Little Masters; a group of German artists in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, distinguished for the excellence of their little illustrative engravings on both wood and copper.

master in chancery; in England, an assistant of the lord chancellor, chosen from among the barristers to sit in chancery or at the rolls; in the United States, an officer in a court of equity whose duty it is to inquire into and to report on matters of fact referred to him, and to perform any duties required of him by the court under whose authority he serves.

master of the horse; the third great officer in the British court, having the management of the royal stables, etc. In solemn cavalcades he rides next to the sovereign.

Master of the Rolls; in England, an officer who has charge of the rolls and patents that pass the great seal, and of the records of the court of chancery.

to be master of oneself; to have complete self-control, especially in respect to passions, impulses, and motives.

to be one's own master; to be untrammelled; to be subject only to one's own wishes and desires, with freedom to act.

Syn.—chief, director, head, manager, boss, proprietor, owner, superintendent.

más'tér, *a.* 1. being master.

2. of a master.

3. chief; principal; main; controlling; specifically, designating a mechanism or contrivance that controls others or sets a standard or norm; as, a *master* switch, a *master* test sheet.

más'tér, *v.t.*; mastered, *pt.*, *pp.*; mastering, *ppr.* 1. to become master of; to conquer; to overpower; to subdue; to bring under control. Evil customs must be *mastered* by degrees.

2. to rule or govern as master.—Calamy.

3. to become an expert at; as, to *master* a science.

4. to possess. [Obs.]

Syn.—conquer, overcome, acquire, attain, learn.

más'tér-at-arms', *n.*; *pl.* **más'térs-at-arms'**, a naval petty officer responsible for keeping order, maintaining discipline, taking charge of prisoners, etc. on a warship: the rating no longer exists in the United States Navy.

más'tér build'ér (bild'), 1. a person skilled in, or in charge of, building; especially, an architect: often figurative.

2. a building contractor.

más'tér-dóm, *n.* mastery.

más'tér-ful, *a.* 1. having or showing the skill of a master; expert.

2. fond of acting the part of a master; imperious; arbitrary.

más'tér-ful-ly, *adv.* in the manner of a master.

más'tér hand, 1. an expert.

2. great ability or skill.

más'tér-hood, *n.* the position of master.

más'tér joint, in geology, the most important among many joints in a mass of rock.

más'tér key, a key for opening more than one of a set of locks; a passkey; hence, figuratively, a general clue to lead out of many difficulties.

más'tér-less, *a.* 1. without a master or owner.

2. ungoverned; unsubdued.

más'tér-less-ness, *n.* lack of a master.

más'tér-li-ness, *n.* the quality or state of being masterly.

más'tér-ly, *a.* 1. formed or executed with superior skill; suitable to a master; most excellent; skillful; as, a *masterly* design; a *masterly* performance; a *masterly* stroke of policy.

2. imperious. [Obs.]

Syn.—finished, artistic, consummate, skillful, dexterous, expert.

más'tér-ly, *adv.* with the skill of a master.

más'tér má'són, 1. a skilled mason; expert worker in brick or stone.

2. [M—] a Freemason of the third degree.